

# The GPG Times

Edition 5  
October 2022



## Introduction

**Marieke Gortemaker**

Welcome to the fifth edition of the GPG Times! With exciting news constantly coming to the service regarding plant genetics, the GPG Times is a great way to stay up to date with all the latest updates so you don't have to worry about missing out! We hope you enjoy reading the GPG Times, let us know on our social media channels your thoughts or if you have any questions regarding any of the articles. Enjoy!



## Introducing Eloise

**Marieke Gortemaker**

We would like to introduce you to a new team member: Eloise McDowell!

As of the beginning of October, Eloise has been working as the new Marketing Assistant for Global Plant Genetics. Eloise started her design and marketing career within the fashion industry. Graduating from London Ravensbourne University, in fashion design, with interest in graphic design, social media and marketing.

Having broad experience, Eloise has worked across many industries, such as fashion, finance, ecommerce, charity (mental health, a particular passion of hers).

### 4 things to know about Eloise –

- Eloise has a keen interest in dog training, behaviours, and nutrition. Working with her own dog – Aurora the Doberman.
- Eloise can often be found hiking with her dog and getting a good coffee along the way.
- Eloise is a self-proclaimed foodie, she enjoys experiencing food from across the world, from fine dining to street food.
- Art and design are a passion for Eloise and this is a large contributor to her every day life, from magazines to exhibitions and creating.

Please join us in welcoming Eloise to the team, we're very excited to have her here. Would you like to know more about Eloise or anyone else on the team? Have a look on our website on the "about us" section to get to know her a bit better!

# Raspberry Open Day at Onésime Pouliot

Jamie Petchell

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In late August, we were excited to be at Ferme Onésime Pouliot in Québec, Canada, where we held an open day for raspberry growers. The company is a key partner of Global Plant Genetics and is assisting us with getting high-quality plant material of the Skye, Lewis (Bonnie Lewis in the USA) and Glen Mor varieties to growers in the region. In addition, they are fruit growers in their own right and produce berries using some of the most modern growing techniques, including potted long cane plants and protected cropping.

Visitors came from other parts of Canada as well as from the USA and comprised of fruit growers, plant nurseries and crop advisors from a range of prestigious businesses.

The Skye raspberry variety had a large number of berries and as a result, the yield potential looked to be significant. Berry quality was excellent, and we all enjoyed eating the berry samples that had been picked the previous day.

Lewis also displayed good yield potential with very good tasting berries. Glen Mor was the earliest of the three raspberry varieties to start harvest and we are excited to see final yield, quality and picking profile data at the end of the season.

Further commercial scale trials are planned in the territory as the varieties continue to develop. Stay in touch with us here at Global Plant Genetics for all the latest news on the raspberry varieties that we represent as well as other crops.

# Von Blackberry in South Africa

Jamie Petchell

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On a recent trip to South Africa, we visited a number of Rubus growers. These included a producer with Von blackberry just outside of Johannesburg.

The plantation was established in late 2020 from plug plants raised in tissue culture. Establishment and further growth have been very good and the crop will bear its second harvest towards the end of this year.

The grower is expectant of seeing more of the same but in larger numbers when compared to last year as the plants are now fully grown. This means brilliant fruit quality, shelf life and flavour. In addition, the variety is easy to manage and its stems do not break when trellising.

We're excited to see the Von variety develop in this region as well as the others in which we manage it.





Interested in trialling  
these selection? Contact:  
[rupert@globalplantgenetics.com](mailto:rupert@globalplantgenetics.com)

## Oregon Blueberry Low Chill and Evergreen selections

Rupert Hargreaves

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A second trip to Peru and Chile in 14 weeks has confirmed my thoughts that the selections we have in trial from the Oregon Blueberry program are placed to take a strong position in the market over the coming years.

With 21 advanced selections in trial at 5 different growing location in Peru we are seeing some great data and extremely exciting selections. These trials have been extended throughout Latin America with the early results coming from Colombia and the rest of the territories 12 months away.

2 established varieties in Peru make up virtually the whole marketplace at present. Both produce relatively small, reasonably poor flavour but generally high yielding and ship well.

We are seeing selections that taste much better, much sweeter, significantly larger and in most cases firmer.

Trials will expand to additional locations throughout Latin America and involve more growers over the next 12 months by which time we will have enough high-quality data to be very comfortable on which ones will enter the market as commercial varieties.

Anyone interested in trialling these selection should make contact in the first instance with [rupert@globalplantgenetics.com](mailto:rupert@globalplantgenetics.com)

# The CIOPORA meeting and the Fruit Attraction fair in Madrid

Iulia Negoita

The beginning of October always announces a fruitful trip to Spain for two important events in the fruit industry: the CIOPORA meeting and the Fruit Attraction fair in Madrid.

After a long break from “in-person” meetings, it was really exciting and such a valuable experience to attend these events, meet new people, and reconnect with my colleagues from the Intellectual Property field.

On the 3rd of October, during a full day of workshops and useful information on various IP topics, it was great to have met in person Charlotte Plasman (with whom I had the pleasure to present an online webinar about UPOV Prisma a couple of months ago) and Judith de Roos (whom I met online during training sessions I took with Wageningen whilst back under pandemic restrictions), some of our partners from various IP counsels which we are collaborating with on PBR filings in a couple of territories worldwide and last but not least, to reconnect with the amazing support team at CIOPORA who as always had ensured that this would be an enjoyable experience in a unique combination of in-depth knowledge workshops and pleasant conversations.



The nicest touch I could have hoped for was finding the CIOPORA Chronicle magazine at the entrance of the workshop room and noticing that one of the articles I wrote a couple of months ago was published in this anniversary edition, what a feeling.

The following day was time to get my “alert mode” ON and attend Fruit Attraction where I had the opportunity to meet and discuss with some of our customers. 8 halls, 1800+ exhibitors, 90000 professionals, and 130 countries that’s a quick summary of Fruit Attraction 2022 and people were literally buzzing since day 1. It’s the perfect opportunity to condense quick meetings with numerous partners into a shorter time slot, discuss projects and explore new opportunities, expand and strengthen our networking relationships and get the pulse of latest technologies and improvements in the industry.

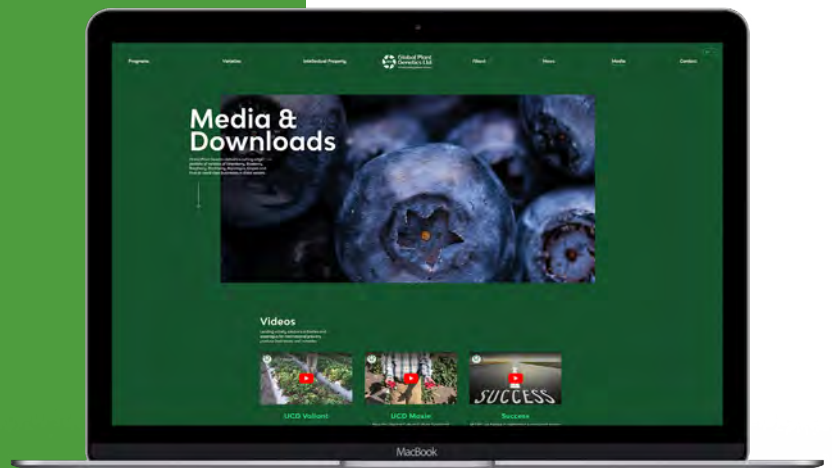
## What you’ve missed

Marieke Gortemaker

Did you know that we post articles on our website that give you updates about anything related to strawberries, blackberries, raspberries, blueberries, asparagus, grapes and nuts? Here is an article that you might have missed!

“The summer fruit delicacy: Blackberries”

The blackberry market is moving towards sweet eating varieties. With the consumer wanting more sweet blackberries on the market, the pressure on good varieties that produce superb blackberries with a low acidity level is rising. So what are the health benefits of blackberries and which ones are the sweetest? Let’s have a look!



# And Finally

Rupert Hargreaves

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1. Blueberries Are Low in Calories but High in Nutrients
2. Blueberries are the King of Antioxidant Foods
3. Blueberries Reduce DNA Damage, Which May Help Protect Against Aging and Cancer
4. Blueberries Protect Cholesterol in Your Blood from Becoming Damaged
5. Blueberries May Lower Blood Pressure
6. Blueberries May Help Prevent Heart Disease
7. Blueberries Can Help Maintain Brain Function and Improve Memory
8. Anthocyanins in Blueberries May Have Anti-Diabetes Effects
9. May Help Fight Urinary Tract Infections
10. Blueberries May Reduce Muscle Damage After Strenuous Exercise

Global consumption of strawberries is x9 bigger than blueberries but with the above information we can all see the growth opportunities are tremendous.

Oh by the way.... The global consumption of strawberries per capita is expanding too.



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